

KnollwoodVillageVoice

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NEIGHBORHOOD WEBSITE

www.knollwoodvillage.org



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

The holidays are here again and it's time for Knollwood Village's annual neighborhood Holiday decorating contest. We hope all residents will bring some holiday cheer!

Below is a list of awards and their winnings that will be handed out. Gift cards in recent years have been from Lowes or Amazon but is subject to change.

The judging will be performed by a few residents and will occur on Saturday evening, December 21st. Best of luck to all residents, let the competition begin (and yes, renters are included).

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1st place (\$150 gift card) | 2nd Place (\$75 gift card) |
| 3rd Place (\$50 gift card) | Best Color Scheme (\$20 gift card) |
| Most Traditional (\$20 gift card) | Most Creative (\$20 gift card) |

A Message From Your KVCC President

Hi Neighbors,

Was that a fantastic turnout for our trick or treaters this year? I loved seeing all the kids in their costumes! Speaking of children, the time change has arrived so let's all drive carefully coming home in the evenings in the dark.

Before we know it the holidays will be here! I hope everyone has plans to spend quality time with family and friends. Be sure to reach out to the ones you love.

Here are the highlights of our Civic Club happenings as we come to the end of this year:

District K News

Mayor Sylvester Turner recently signed

the purchase agreement for the 28-acre Shell Research Center on Gasmer, adjacent to the Willow Waterhole Greenway. This purchase will allow significantly more retention in the northern region of the district (west of us) to help prevent residents from repeatedly flooding, specifically in the Westbury area. This indirectly impacts Knollwood Village in a positive way. There is currently no timeline on when the work will begin, how it will be funded, or when it will be completed.

For years now, you have probably occasionally heard a train sounding its horn in the distance. It appears we may hear them less now as the Federal Railroad Administration recently notified Union Pacific that they have reinstated the Quiet Zone. Union Pacific still has the authority to sound the train

horn at their discretion when there is a threat of danger, i.e. someone or something is on the train track.

Upcoming Meetings

Our next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 2nd at 6:30 pm. This is an open meeting for residents to attend and observe or to come and ask questions. We will be sending out notices via email and posting on Nextdoor.com. Next year's Annual Resident meeting is now scheduled for Thursday, January 30th. Agenda for that will include:

- Vote on the 2020 slate of officers (Only open position is Secretary)
- Brief 2019 summary in review
- Security-related Presentation: We are tentatively planning to introduce a new Neighborhood Security Camera solution that some of the board members are investigating. Cameras would be strategically placed to capture every vehicle's license plate as they enter the neighborhood. While there are many objectives, one of the primary ones is to be more proactive in catching the crooks that commit crimes in our neighborhood so they don't keep doing it and to also act as an added deterrent. If we were to move forward, this would result in a temporary or permanent scaling back of our security patrols due to its cost. If you are fan of either and if security is important to you, don't miss the Annual Resident meeting at 6:30 pm, Thursday, January 30th.

Financials

We reached 50% of dues collections this year. Honestly, I am not going to sugar coat it like it's a great accomplishment. Since 2008, we have hovered between 45-67% participation so this year is slightly below average. For the residents that pay and the many that pay above and beyond the \$175 per year, the board and your neighbors appreciate you.

In a neighborhood of 600+ homes, it's expected there will always be some homeowners with legitimate circumstances that make it difficult to contribute, however, there is a large majority out there that apparently don't think it's a priority year after year. I've lived here 11 years now and I think this Civic Club has done a great job (I know, I'm biased) of trying to keep up with other neighborhoods with our limited revenue and volunteers. We'll obviously continue to do that, but having better participation in dues contributions would allow the Civic Club to invest even more in our neighborhood and in turn, increase the values of all of our properties.

Security

This quarter we had several crimes involving vacated homes and unfortunately at least one burglary where the thieves were looking for a crime of opportunity. It appeared that they waited for the homeowners to leave and then proceeded to burglarize their home. Home security cameras captured the thieves arriving at the home shortly after the homeowner left. Cameras captured decent pictures of vehicles, but without license plate information, the crime remains unsolved. The homeowner is left not only without their valuables, but left feeling violated (as one can imagine). Neighbors, please be vigilant when you leave your home!

This is another example of why we are looking at the Flock Safety solution (<https://www.flocksafety.com/>). Hypothetically speaking, if the Flock Safety neighborhood cameras had already been installed, the criminal's vehicle license plate would have been captured entering the neighborhood around the time of the crime. With a general description of the vehicle and the date/time stamp, video evidence would have been turned over to HPD to investigate and hopefully arrest the criminal(s) and maybe even get

the valuable items returned to the homeowner. This quarter alone, there were 3 reported burglaries and 2 vehicles stolen that could have potentially resulted in solved cases. Ultimately, the posting of warning signs and cameras as they entered the neighborhood would have alerted thieves to stay out. Again, mark your calendar for Jan 30th and come to our meeting to discuss Flock Safety! Your opinions and input matter!

NRG Park – Yellow Lot Concerts

The Travis Scott “Astroworld” concert is now behind us. I want to say thank you for those residents who tolerated the event. The Civic Club received a handful of complaints, comments, questions, etc. and is following up with NRG Park officials to review details in an effort to continue to improve our experience in these types of events. No other concerts are currently on the radar for the next few months.

VOLUNTEERS!

Our Civic Club always needs volunteers! If you are looking for a positive way to make a difference in your neighborhood or if you are bored and need a new hobby, whatever the reason, please get with us and see if we can find a fit for you.

At a high level, we would love some help next year on the Social Committee, with Security, and with the Newsletter (article writing/ coordinating 4 newsletters per year). One of our officers, David Meinert is completing his third year as Secretary so we will need a volunteer to fill his role as our minute taker for board/resident meetings (about 6 meetings per year). For 2021, several of our terms on the Board will expire. We will be looking for a new President, Vice President, and Treasurer. Getting involved now, even to just observe, is a way to see if any board positions

would be a good fit for you in the future. We have homeowners of all ages and backgrounds on our board. Many, such as myself, have full time jobs and little ones at home. Several board members have kids in high school, and some are empty-nesters and/or retired. We have a great mix of volunteers with varying areas of expertise and a wide range of years of experience in the KVCC (1 to 30+ years), which helps keep us strong as a Civic Club. For more information, please reach out to myself or one of our other board members. We invite you to observe meetings, ask questions, etc. to give you more insight without any obligation to commit to service at this time.

THANK YOU!

Special thanks goes out to the Social committee (Sara Munson, Bevin Barrett and Neha Agrawal) for organizing our National Night Out event again within the neighborhood. We also want to thank local resident, Joanna Brandt who went to each party and took some great pictures which are available for free download on our website! You will see group pictures of the parties inside this newsletter.

And finally, I want to thank all of the hardworking board and committee members (listed below) that make up the Civic Club today. I know this neighborhood would not be what it is today without this group and all of the previous volunteers that came before them. If you see or meet one of them – please give them a heartfelt thank you for making our neighborhood a priority!

Michael Doyle | Laura Ferro | David Meinert | Grant Heemer | Brent Nyquist | David Wood | Cheryl O'Brien | David Roder | Bev Blackwood | Reed Hablinski | Neha Agrawal | Parul Vyas | Joe Powers | Annemieke Luckey | Julie Kuzin | Sara Munson | Bevin Barrett

I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.



Scott J Rose
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Braeswood Super Neighborhood (BSN)

By Cheryl O'Brien

The Braeswood Super Neighborhood (BSN) was very busy this year! A major entry area to our Super Neighborhood (SN) area is Stella Link. If you drive Stella Link between Latma and 610, you will notice brand a new sidewalk on the west side of Stella Link along with revamped bus stops and benches. Working with our Houston City Council member, Martha Castex-Tatum, we encouraged Metro to make these improvements to this bus line.

We worked with the management company for the strip center on the east side of Stella Link close to 610 to clean up that area. TxDOT has also worked to keep the underpass at Stella Link cleaned up. Many thanks to volunteers from the civic groups near that area who came out to support these efforts!

We have been in close contact with the Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) regarding the work on the Stella Link bridges. That work should be completed soon. Not that this helps us but HCFCD has learned from the traffic issues at the Stella Link/S. and N. Braeswood intersections that the way they managed the work on these bridges was not the best. They have revised the way they will approach work on dual bridges further west along the bayou (S. Rice in particular).

Once the work on the Stella Link bridges is completed, they will begin work on the Buffalo Speedway bridge. There is ongoing utility work at Buffalo Speedway now related to this bridge replacement. Stay tuned for details as the work nears inception.

Speaking of road issues, fixing the roadway on Buffalo Speedway between 610 and S. Braeswood is another ongoing effort of the BSN. Castex-Tatum, our City Council member for District K, agrees with us that this roadway needs to be rebuilt and is working with us on how to get this accomplished.

We want to alert everyone that the City of West University is going to be doing a total rebuild of Buffalo Speedway between Holcombe and Bissonnet. They are in the designing and planning stage now. The plans will include drainage work. There are concerns from the BSN that their plans will adversely impact our area. These concerns have been raised at the appropriate levels and are being looked at by HCFCD and other parties. Work is scheduled to begin January 2021. We will keep you posted on this.

The Houston Parks Board is busily working on the hike/bike trail along Brays Bayou. They are working east to west, but must work around all the bridge construction along the bayou. Until our bridges are complete, we will not see the full connection of all the trail sections.

The mobility bridge is still in the plans. We are working with Commissioner Ellis, Harris County Precinct 1 on this bridge. We'll keep you posted!

Last, we are hosting a holiday cleanup on Sat. Nov. 23 starting at 9:00 am. We are encouraging folks to come to Linkwood Park with gloves, trash bags, shovels, and rakes to help get the area holiday ready! The new playground at

Linkwood Park is heavily used and is a great addition to our area. If you have not seen it, I urge you to go and check it out.

See you in 2020! We meet the 3rd Thursday of the month at Linkwood Park from 6:30 pm-8:00 pm. All are welcome to attend.

HELP US WELCOME OUR NEW NEIGHBORS!

By Annemieke Luckey

Recently, my partner in crime Lisa Clissold, and myself set out with freshly baked cookies, welcome letters, and a list of 12 homes recently sold in our beloved Knollwood Village. Just as we were growing discouraged after 5 attempts to greet a new neighbor and were met with either no one home, a house undergoing renovations, or an empty lot, we got lucky! Someone came to the door! And five more after that!

Always the door is opened with some reluctance, but after quick introductions and the presentation of cookies, and the realization we're not trying to sell something, a friendly chat usually follows. We learned some were displaced by Harvey, some moved from an apartment and are starting a family, while others moved from far away. No matter what brought them, they all seemed happy to be part of Knollwood Village!

Unfortunately, sometimes we miss greeting some of our new neighbors. This is where you can help. If you notice someone moving into a house on your street or elsewhere in the neighborhood please let us know by emailing us at welcome@knollwoodvillage.org so we can give them a proper welcome!

PERSHING MIDDLE SCHOOL

By Jennifer Vaughan

It has been a busy and exciting fall at Pershing Middle School!

We welcomed students, families and the community to the annual Spaghetti Supper and Fine Arts Showcase on November 14th. It was a wonderful evening full of tremendous performances by Jazz Band, Orchestra, Choir, Guitar, Theatre, Dance and Gymnastics. Fabulous art was on display and there was an interactive Creative Writing activity. Be on the lookout for this event next November!

Special thanks to Spaghetti Supper Chairs from last year and this year: Dr. Julie Schlegel, Ms. Susie Loredo, Ms. Moya Varner and Dr. Amelie Rosenfeld.

Our theatre program continues to shine! Our UIL One Act play, scenes from *The Girl In the White Pinafore*, competed at Zone on Nov 9 and advanced to District on November 16th at Chavez HS placing 1st Runner Up! Theatre students went to the Texas Renaissance Festival School Days on Nov. 5th. They competed in duo scenes and small group ensembles.

Creative Writing students recently participated in the Poetry Slam at the Alley Theatre. Numerous students participated including Claire Bradford and Lydia Carr. Adelaide Brown and several other students even advanced to the finals. Destiny Guillot placed 3rd overall. This is part of the Educational Partnership that Pershing has with the Alley Theatre, which is in its second year.

Cross Country, Volleyball and Football wrapped up successful seasons. Basketball and swimming are now underway and baseball and softball tryouts are scheduled before the Christmas break.

30 talented and driven students are ready to compete for The Mr. and Miss Pershing Middle School Calendar Pageant. The event will take place on December 13, 2019 at 6 pm in the auditorium. The event is free to the public, but donations are encouraged to assist with pageant expenses and 8th grade end of the year activities.

Many students participated in the Houston Fire Department's kickoff of Operation Stocking Stuffer on November 15th at the HFD Fire Station #37. Student athletes helped with toy collections. Our marvelous choir and dance companies provided holiday performances and cheer to prepare for the holiday season.



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Knollwood Village Upcoming Meeting Announcements

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Please make an effort to send a representative from your household.

Limited parking in lot of community center but plenty of street parking around the park itself and at Longfellow Elementary.

Civic Club Board Meeting

- When: Mid-January, look out for announcement.
- Where: Linkwood Community Center at Linkwood Park - 3699 Norris Dr
- Purpose: Conduct normal Civic Club business. This meeting is open to residents to attend and observe. If residents are interested in attending to inquire about any specific topics, a reservation is requested in advance and time will be limited. Please email president@knollwoodvillage.org or call 281-221-7334 to arrange.

Neighborhood Resident Meeting

- When: Thursday, January 30, 2019 6:30 pm-8:30 pm.
- Where: Linkwood Community Center at Linkwood Park - 3699 Norris Dr
- Purpose: This is one of two annual meetings for the residents of Knollwood Village. We will be voting on our slate of officers for the 2020 Civic Club board. Additionally, as always, it will also include a high level update on our budget, security, current topics, and a resident Q&A.
- Light snack/water to be provided

Guest Speaker / Topic: Flock Safety – Neighborhood Security Camera Presentation

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FINANCIAL CIVIC CLUB UPDATE

By Laura Ferro (Treasurer)

Dear Neighbors,

As of November 17th we received 308 (49.4% out of 624) payments averaging \$188.48 for a total of \$58,240. Thank you for your contributions and a special thanks to those who contributed the extra amounts.

Our target revenue at the beginning of the year was \$65,400 and to-date we have received \$62,700 not counting NRG funds nor any earned interest on our CD. Our projected expenses for the year are \$64,000 and to date we have spent \$58,000 with 6 weeks remaining. Currently, our expenses are in line with our revenue however, by the end of the year, our expenses are expected to slightly exceed the revenue.

If you have not yet contributed, there is still time to do so. I apologize for the errors in the Pay-No-Pay List, which were mistakenly published in the last newsletter. If you are not sure if you paid, please contact me and I will check and let you know.

It's easy to support our neighborhood (\$175 per year) and contribute:

By mail, send the check to Knollwood Village Civic Club, PO Box 20801, Houston, TX 77225.

Or online, please visit our website at knollwoodvillage.org and click CONTRIBUTE.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at treasurer@knollwoodvillage.org.

Sincerely,
Laura

TREE CHALLENGE

By Abraham Thomas

You are all aware of the wild fire at Amazon wildfire and the wild fires in other parts of the world. Please see some facts about the oxygen production by nature and consumption by humans as given below:

1. Consumption by humans

The average adult at rest inhales and exhales something like 7 or 8 liters (about one-fourth of a cubic foot) of air per minute. That totals something like 11,000 liters of air (388 cubic feet) in a day.

The air that is inhaled is about 20-percent oxygen, and the air that is exhaled is about 15-percent oxygen, so about 5-percent of the volume of air is consumed in each breath and converted to carbon dioxide. Therefore, a human being uses about 550 liters of pure oxygen (19 cubic feet) per day.

2. Production by the nature

On average, one tree produces nearly 260 pounds of oxygen each year. Two mature trees can provide enough oxygen for a family of four." That same acre of trees also produces enough oxygen for 18 people to breathe for a year." Not all trees produce the same amount of oxygen in the same amount of time.

Think about the facts above before you cut even a branch or root of a tree and take the challenge of planting more trees in your yard.

BRAESWOOD PLACE MOMS CLUB

Liz Sirmans, President (lizrowen@gmail.com)

Happy Holidays to you all! It's been such fun to meet new moms and families in the neighborhood as President of the Club this year. We have some great events planned to celebrate the end of 2019, so be sure to join the Club and come meet-up with us! (We are offering free membership until Dec 31st, so be sure to reach out if you're interested!) Thanks to all the moms who helped host this year's events. A special thank you to the group's premier sponsor Margaret Vinson with Martha Turner Sotheby's International Realty, for supporting so many events throughout the year.

Our BPMC website is now through Tinyhood! Hope everyone is enjoying our new platform! Please contact Shell Jenkins at shelljenkins@ymail.com with any questions regarding Tinyhood.

MEMBERSHIP: Simply email Shell Jenkins at shelljenkins@ymail.com if you have you been thinking about joining the Braeswood Place Moms Group. Contact Kristin Hamilton at kchamilton44@yahoo.com if you are a current member and would like to be added to our Facebook page.

September: The kids enjoyed decorating cookies at 3 Brothers Bakery for back-to-school! Moms also celebrated back-to-school with a fun happy hour at Hungry's! Our moms also had a chance to learn about the sparkling wines and champagnes that we love at our wine tasting event with Total Wine. As always, thanks to our Premiere sponsor, Margaret Vinson, Realtor with Martha Turner Sotheby's International Realty for sponsoring our September events.

October: BPMC Halloween Party- Sunday October 27th was hosted by Britt Beresik & Jessica Fair. Our families had a spook-tacular time at Karl Young Park during our annual Halloween Event. The kids enjoyed face painting, a bounce house, pumpkin decorating, and a costume contest! As always, thanks to our Premiere sponsor: Margaret Vinson, Realtor with Martha Turner Sotheby's International Realty.

November: Our couple's night out at the Marquis II, hosted by Ashley Clinton & Bethany Lenhart on Nov 2nd, was such fun! Our moms and dads were able to get a night away and mingle without the kids in tow. As always, thanks to our Premiere sponsor: Margaret Vinson, Realtor with Martha Turner Sotheby's International Realty.

December: Save the dates! December 7th Family Holiday Movie in the Park- Hosted by Jen Rupe & Mary Katherine Barbour. On December 12th, our Holiday Mom's Party will be hosted by Alissa Moyse & Stephanie Schaefer at '401.

MOMMY MEALS*: Are you a member who just had a baby and can't bear the thought of cooking up dinner? Let our group shower your family with 4 meals after the birth of your child. Email Briana Faherty at kearneybriana@yahoo.com

*Members are encouraged to provide at least one meal during the calendar year. This is a great way to meet new friends in the neighborhood.

SPONSORS: We are always looking for event sponsors. As a sponsor you are welcome to place promotional signage at our events and will be mentioned in The Sentinel and the KVCC Newsletter. Please contact Liz Sirmans at lizrowen@gmail.com for more information.

BABYSITTERS: Do you or your child want to babysit? Moms are always looking for great sitters. Please contact Stephanie Schaefer at shares@gmail.com if you would like to be added to the sitter list.





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-Mary

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National Night Out!

By Sara Munson

National Night Out in Knollwood Village was once again a welcome opportunity to renew acquaintances with neighbors and to meet new residents. There were 12 parties throughout the neighborhood, attended by a mix of adults and children, plus some friendly dogs and also the Zebra Art Car! Appetizers/pot luck and desserts were on most menus. While the adults chatted, kids drew chalk pictures, played on a swing, or played with dogs.

Some comments from party hosts included:

“We had a blast!”

“A good time was had by all!”

“Conversation was marvelous!”

“Many new faces!”

The Knollwood Village Civic Club thanks all the hosts and attendees for supporting this community event. Next year’s National Night Out will be on October 6, 2020! Save the date!





Knollwood Village Odds & Ends

Stay in the loop with neighborhood news and sign up for important neighborhood notifications at www.knollwoodvillage.org, click on "Email List", enter info and subscribe.

Nextdoor.com (web or app) is also a good source of resident postings of things happening in our neighborhood as well as other area neighborhoods like Braeswood Place, Westridge, Linkwood, Woodridge, Braes Heights and Old Braeswood.

REMINDER – Our regular trash day is THURSDAY each week.

HEAVY TRASH is the 3rd Monday of each month. Remember your **ODDS & EVENS**:

Tree Waste is collected on the 3rd Monday of ODD months

Junk Waste is collected on the 3rd Monday of EVEN months.

RECYCLING is every other Thursday. Remember, glass is now accepted again.

The City of Houston (COH) has been dealing with a high surplus of trucks that are out of service and a shortage of drivers. They have contracted with a private company to help while they await the arrival of new trucks. The COH has ordered 175 new Solid Waste vehicles, including 90 garbage/recycling trucks, which will replace half of the fleet. Residents should already see some of the new trucks in our neighborhood as the additional units are delivered through April 2020. If you are missed, call 311 to report it to the COH. Be sure to ask for the case number. Call your District City Council member and ask them to follow up on the case number. The Council Member for District K is Martha Castex-Tatum at 832-393-3016.



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Longfellow Elementary School

By Jenny Rozelle

Longfellow's UIL team has grown exponentially this year. The team participated in the first district wide competition of the year on Nov. 9, and seven of our students placed in their events! We are so proud of our students who have worked so hard at practices to prepare for these competitions, and we are grateful to the teachers who coach them.

Also on Nov. 9 was our first Community Health Fair, sponsored by Longfellow's Marvelous MOMS. A group of experts were available to discuss issues that affect the health of both children and adults. Attendees enjoyed the event and learned a lot.

Our annual Turkey Bowl took place after school on Nov. 12. Teachers and staff members competed by rolling a frozen turkey (in a plastic bag) to knock down bowling pins. The competition is both intense and hilarious. The winner gets bragging rights as well as a new frozen turkey for their holiday meal.

Fall Leadership Day took place on Nov. 21. Our students helped organize and plan this event, which showcased how the Leader in Me program works at Longfellow. Family and community members as well as officials from other schools came to Longfellow to learn more about how the eight habits prepare our students to be leaders.

Longfellow's fifth grade students released the results of the annual HISD Toy Survey at a press conference on Nov. 22. Earlier in the semester, these fifth graders had surveyed Longfellow students at all grade levels to determine the most popular toys for the holidays for each age group. The team worked for more than two months to conduct this survey and compile the results.

October was National Bullying Prevention Month, and Longfellow students committed to take a stand against bullying. Students had discussions about self-esteem, promoting kindness and embracing differences.

Longfellow's annual Fall Festival took place on Oct. 18. Festive decorations adorned the school playground area, and our orchestra students performed spooky music on our outdoor stage. Community members enjoyed games, food, a costume contest and other fun activities, like bounce houses and a set of giant inflatable hamster balls for the kids to play inside. All proceeds from the event go back to the school, benefitting all of our students.

Longfellow dance will present their Nutcracker performance on Dec. 12 at our school. Our band, orchestra, choir and dance magnets will all hold winter performances at Pershing Middle School on Dec. 18. Come watch as our students showcase their talents!

Our next PTA meeting will take place on Dec. 5 at 6 p.m. The PTA also will hold a Longfellow movie night on Dec. 13 at 6:30 p.m. PTA members voted to show "Home Alone" – a fun holiday movie for the whole family!

The last day of the semester for students is Dec. 19. School will be back in session on Jan. 6. Have a safe, happy and relaxing winter break!





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Architecture Control Committee (ACC) Activity Report September to November 2019

By Parul Vyas

The KV ACC is working to develop proposed changes to the Knollwood Village section 8 deed restrictions to provide more flexibility to homeowners that are nearest the bayou on the east side of Buffalo Speedway and south of South Braeswood. This is an area that received the greatest amount of flooding during Hurricane Harvey. The KV ACC is working with the KV attorney on the process. It is anticipated that the steps would include providing information to homeowners on the proposed changes, an opportunity for residents to ask questions followed by a meeting and a vote. Changes to the deed restrictions require approval by 51% of the property owners in section 8. Residents are not required to attend the meeting but are encouraged to submit their absentee ballot with their vote. If you are curious what section you reside in, see the map below which also exists on the KVCC website in color.



Date:	Address:	Street:	Description of Request:	Approved	Rejected
9/5/2019	3119	Linkwood drive	Room addition	X	
10/31/2019	3027	Prescott	New Construction	X	
11/6/2019	8406	Hatton	Storage/potter shed	X	

Meet Your Knollwood Village Neighbor The Jammarr Family on Fairhope Place

Names: Rony, Cecilia; Children: Gabriela (16), Sophia (13) and Isabel (11) Jammarr

Tell us about yourself and family

I moved to Texas 33 years ago from Belgium, lived first in Port Arthur, then in Houston. I've been in this area since 1991. Cecilia (a Peruvian native) and I met in 2001 and got married in 2002. Our children came not long after that. We both work in the Oil & Gas business – where we met. I work as an Industry consultant (assisting refineries implementing software systems); Cecilia is a business analyst for Motiva, a company headquartered downtown. Given our origin, if you want to find a Jammarr, this is it for the United States. We have great friends living nearby and are looking forward to making more here in this neighborhood.



How long have you lived in the neighborhood?

We moved to Braes Heights in 1991; stayed 10 years on Blue Bonnet by Pershing, then 16 years walking distance from Mark Twain on Underwood. We loved the area especially after the creation of the recreation area on Braes and reconstruction of the two schools; our kids grew there safely and close to their schools; two are now attending St John's Middle and High Schools; the third is in her last year at Mark Twain. Five years ago, we were talking about building our own house if we could find a lot...

One night in 2015, coming back from a trip, I asked the Taxi driver (no Uber then) to go by this Fairhope Pl. corner lot I had found online. It was perfect, large, clean, surrounded by trees, one of them a majestic oak tree. We came back multiple times and realized how quiet it was here, even when compared to Braes Heights, fell in love with the surroundings and were fortunate to acquire the lot in December that year. Then came the long years of making it our home: 1 year of design and permitting, 2 years of challenging construction, and even 2 moves in between. And then one day in March of this year, we were finally in. There is no way we could do this again, but it is all we'd hoped for as a neighborhood and we feel at home already, about to enjoy the first Holiday season in our new home.

Favorite hobby or things to do as a family?

We have traveled extensively to visit family in Belgium and in Peru, and this is probably the most favorite activity as a family. But 5 people travelling is no picnic, so we are now more centered around supporting our children in their sports activities (tennis is big here), the occasional visit to a local restaurant and family BBQ in our quiet place we now can call home. Biking used to be a favorite 5 years ago, but seems to have evolved into long walks with our "walk demanding" Golden Retriever (Kenai).

What is your favorite thing about the neighborhood?

Proximity and ease of access to just about everything in Houston, comfort, safety, relative avoidance of traffic – when

compared to North Braes which has grown quite constricted. A place where you can walk in the streets without fear of being run over by a speeding car – it is rare to see even one car on our daily rounds, friendly neighbors who we are now discovering.

What would you like to see improved?

“Bird baths” showing up in our streets after rain and watering. It is sad for streets that have been redone just a few years ago; we are missing drains in critical places and/or the grading is not right; this should be addressed as soon as possible. We saw work going on this year, but do not really understand what it improved, if anything.



McGovern-Stella Link Neighborhood Library

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Mon & Thurs 12 PM-8 PM | Tues & Wed 9 AM-6 PM |

Fri 1 PM-5 PM | Sat 10 AM-5 PM | Sun CLOSED

Special Event:

- Santa at Your Library! Monday, December 16th from 6:00PM-7:30PM: Santa is stopping in at the Houston Public Library and he needs your Christmas wish list! Bring your list and your biggest smile to meet the jolliest elf himself, Santa. Parents, don't forget your camera!
- Season's Readings Program: Come join the fun and participate in our reading program from December 1st, 2019 through January 15th, 2020. Complete the program to earn a free book by reading at least 20 minutes per day for a total of 10 days! For ages 0-18.

Adult Programs:

- Adult Computer Class: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1:30PM
- English Conversation Class: Mondays at 6PM
- Needlework Club (Crafts): Wednesdays at 1PM

Kids Programs:

- Pajama Storytime: Mondays at 7:00PM
- Baby Storytime: Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 10:30AM
- Family Storytime: Tuesdays at 10:30AM
- Preschool Playtime: Wednesdays at 10:30AM
- Tween Craft: Mondays at 4:00PM
- Video Gaming: Tuesdays at 4:00PM
- STEM @ Your Library: Wednesdays at 4:00PM

Please note our daily kids programs will be on holiday break Nov. 25th-30th and Dec. 23rd- Jan. 4th .

Passport Services: Passport application processing is available by appointment only during the following hours: Mon & Thurs 1PM-7PM, Tues & Wed 10AM-4PM, Sat 10AM-4PM, Fri & Sun CLOSED. Please visit www.houstonlibrary.org/passports to conveniently request an appointment at this location or one of our other 4 passport locations in the Houston Public Library system.

The library will be closed:

- Tuesday and Wednesday, December 24th and 25th (Christmas Eve and Christmas Day)
- Wednesday, January 1st (New Year's Day)
- Monday, January 20th (MLK Day)

Library items may be returned in our outside book drop. You may also visit www.houstonlibrary.org to log into your library account to renew your items.

KVCC Fall 2019 Incident Report

The Knollwood Village security incidents reported below are compiled from reports that residents make to Smith Security, data available on the Houston Police Department's crime statistics website, and reports from residents. Information available on the HPD's website is limited to the very basic details of block number, date, time, and type of crime.

Please report all criminal incidents to both HPD and Smith. HPD allocates their patrol resources to areas that report incidents so it is to Knollwood Village's benefit to report all incidents that occur here to HPD.

After reporting an incident to the Houston Police Department, PLEASE call Smith Security and give a report to them, as well. The reports provide important details to Smith so they know what to be on the lookout for. Also, providing information from Smith about neighborhood crime in this newsletter helps keep residents informed about how the criminals operate so deterrent measures can be made more effective.

If you notice any persons in the neighborhood who are behaving suspiciously please IMMEDIATELY call the Houston Police Department's non-emergency phone number, which is 713-884-3131, and report them. After you report the suspicious person(s) to HPD, please call Smith Protective Services at 713-789-5944, and report the suspicious person(s) to them. It is important to call HPD and Smith because they both need to know what to watch out for.

However, you see a crime in progress, such as a person breaking the window of a house or kicking in a door, then call 911, the City of Houston's emergency number, to report it.

Knollwood Village is in Precinct 7 of the Harris County Constable's office. The patrol dispatch number for the Precinct 7 Constable's office is 713-643-6602. The Houston Police Department should always be called first at their non-emergency number listed above, but feel free to call the Precinct 7 Constable's dispatch number second. If a Constable officer happens to be patrolling in the area they may be able to respond to a call more quickly than HPD officers patrolling further away.

Knollwood Village Incident Reports (August 2019 through November 2019)

3500 block Linkwood (9/9/19, Monday, around 10:00 AM) - Burglary, breaking and entering.

3500 block Linkwood (9/26/19, Thursday, around 1:00 PM) - Burglary, breaking and entering.

8300 block Lorrie (10/1/19, Tuesday, around 11:00 PM) - Aggravated assault.

8300 block Lorrie (10/2/19, Wednesday, around 4:00 PM) - Destruction, damage, vandalism.

2800 block Linkwood (10/15/19, Tuesday, around 4:00 PM) - Theft from motor vehicle.

2800 block Conway (10/22/19, Tuesday, around 11:00 AM) - Burglary, breaking and entering.

3400 block Gannett (10/31/19, Thursday, around 7:00 PM) - Theft from motor vehicle.

8200 block Lorrie (11/4/19, Monday, 9:20 AM) - Resident called dispatch to report that they observed a young male wearing a black hooded jacket jump a wooden fence at this location. This suspicious person was seen elsewhere in the area between 9:00 and 10:00 AM, but patrol did not find them.

8300 block Lorrie (11/11/19, Monday, 10:00 AM) - Resident reported to patrol that a vehicle with expired tags had been parked in this area for months.

Knollwood Village (11/14/19, Thursday, 12:02 PM) - Tenant asked patrol if they had seen a black dog in the neighborhood. The dog had escaped from the Mercy Clinic near Kirby Drive about two weeks ago. Patrol had not observed the dog in the neighborhood.

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HOUSTON POLICE:

Report suspicious activity to (713) 884-3131

SMITH SECURITY: (713) 789-5944 or (713) 782-9617

Poison Control (800) 222-1222

Animal Control (713) 238-9600

All City Departments: Dial 311

Mayor's Office (713) 247-2200

City Council: Councilmember Martha Castex-Tatum, District K
(832) 393-3016 districtk@houstontx.gov

State Rep: Sarah Davis, District 134 (713) 521-4474

Harris Co. Flood Control (713) 684-4197

Street Light Replacement (713) 207-2222